

todu, has been completed almost. The Attara bridge has been constructed, and an estimate for the remaining portion of the road is under preparation.

The widening and deepening of the Bhutattan *todu* must wait.

117. Needs of the Kottayam town.

MR. T. K. KITTAN (*Municipal Council, Kottayam*) said that the accommodation in the Kottayam District Hospital was hardly sufficient to meet the demands of the people. While the actual number of in-patients at the moment was 75, the number of beds available was only 29. The remaining patients were being accommodated in verandas, etc. There were only two beds in the labour ward which were hardly sufficient. More beds should be provided by increasing the accommodation and the labour ward should be enlarged by increasing the number of beds there also.

The Kottayam Division Cutcherry was situated very near the Palace and the accommodation was insufficient. The holding of the office there was also inconvenient during the tours of His Highness the Maha Raja. It would therefore be convenient to the general public if the office be shifted to a separate building and if this was not feasible, at least a waiting shed should be put up for the use of the clients.

The First Class Magistrate's Court also was held in a portion of the Division Cutcherry building. The court-house was too small to accommodate even the vakils. In cases where a large number of witnesses had to be examined, the court could not accommodate all. There was also no convenient waiting shed for the clients. This court also was subject to the same inconvenience as the Division Cutcherry during times of royal tours. The court-house should therefore be shifted to a separate and convenient building or at least a new waiting shed for the clients should be put up.

The Stationary Magistrate's Court was housed in a rented building which was ill-ventilated and in an insanitary condition. Being adjacent to the public road, it was subject to the disturbance caused by the noise of the buses plying to and fro. Either a new building should be put up for this court or it should be removed to a convenient building.

The Additional Munsiff's Court building too was small and inconvenient. So also the Principal Munsiff's Court. These defects should be remedied by adding some extensions to the existing buildings.

The District Court was located in a good site, but the buildings were old and insufficient for holding the courts. A separate and convenient building for this court was an imperative need and should be put up at an early date.

Thus all the Revenue and Judicial Courts at Kottayam were inconveniently housed. The question of housing these courts properly should therefore engage the earnest attention of the Government.

Many public offices, such as the Stationary Magistrate's Court, the Panchayat Court, the Excise Division Office, the Divisional Forest Office,

etc., were held in rented buildings and a large amount was being spent every year on account of rent. It would be well to accommodate all these offices in decent buildings newly put up by the Government.

The departmental educational institutions *viz.*, the Tirunakara primary school situated within the premises of the Munsiff's Court, the V. M. school for girls and the V. M. Training school were all housed in very old, small, thatched and ill-ventilated buildings. There had been several representations on this subject but they were all in vain. All these buildings should be reconstructed.

Kottayam was a chief centre of water communication in the State. There was boat service from Kottayam to places like Alleppey, Quilon, Ernakulam and Vaikam. Ordinary canoe boats also landed at Kottayam for loading and unloading goods. Much inconvenience was being felt for want of a boat jetty and boat basin. These boats were landing at the Palace jetty which was quite inconvenient and unsuitable. The boat jetty there should be improved and provided with a dock and a shed put up for the use of the travellers and merchants for keeping their goods as soon as they were landed.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Government have recently sanctioned Mr. Kittan, the erection of a shed, a semi-permanent shed, costing Rs. 3,000 to accommodate 24 patients in the District Hospital, Kottayam. The Chief Engineer has been asked to finish this work before the close of the year. The other improvements to the hospital will be carried out as funds permit.

An estimate has been called for for a building for housing the courts at Kottayam. The other public offices must wait. We will try to deal with the courts first.

The subject of a new building for the vernacular middle school for girls is receiving attention. The question of providing better accommodation for the boys' school is under correspondence.

An estimate for a jetty office is pending sanction for want of funds. The necessity for a Government dock has still to be proved.

118. Certain needs of the Ettumanur pakuthi.

MR. T. P. KRISHNANUNNI ASARI (*Nominated*) urged the need for improving the Chirakulam tank situated in the centre of the Ettumanur town. This was much used by the public for bathing purposes but the water was bad and the surroundings insanitary. The improvement of the tank should be taken up without further delay, in the interests of the health of the general public. Part of the tank was separated by a bund. If this was with the idea of registering that portion to anybody, the member wanted to protest against the registry.

The need for a Munsiff's Court at Ettumanur had been represented in vain at several sessions of the Assembly. On account of the absence of a Munsiff's Court at Ettumanur, the litigant public were put to much hardship and loss, because they had to go to Kottayam in connection